

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MAPUTO 1110

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MZ, US
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MACHEL'S TRAVEL PLANS

REF: MAPUTO 1008 AND 1078

1. SUMMARY. MACHEL'S TRAVEL PLANS HAVE BEEN CHANGED. HE NOW PLANS TO BE IN NEW YORK FROM OCTOBER 2 TO 5. HE WILL ADDRESS UNGA AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 3. HE HOPES IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IN NEW YORK ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 4 OR THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 5. PRESIDENTIAL AIDES SERGIO VIEIRA AND FERNANDO HONWANA WISH TO PURSUE DISCUSSION OF MACHEL'S VISIT WITH AMBASSADOR AT 1100 HOURS LOCAL TIME SEPTEMBER 12. REQUEST DEPARTMENT SEND GUIDANCE IN TIME FOR THIS MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. DCM CARSON AND I MET THIS MORNING WITH PRESIDENT AIDES SERGIO VIEIRA AND FERNANDO HONWANA TO DISCUSS PRESIDENT MACHEL'S VISIT TO NEW YORK.

3. AS RESULT OF SCHEDULING OF PRESIDENT MACHEL'S ADDRESS TO UNGA ON THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 3 (MOZAMBICANS HAD EARLIER THOUGHT IT WOULD BE ON SEPTEMBER 27 OR 28), PRESIDENT MACHEL WILL NOW BE IN NEW YORK FROM OCTOBER 2 TO 5, RATHER THAN FROM SEPTEMBER
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27 TO OCTOBER 2 AS MEMBASSY HAD EARLIER BEEN TOLD.

4. VIEIRA AND HONWANA HOPE THAT THE RESCHEDULING OF MACHEL'S VISIT TO NEW YORK, WHICH NOW OVERLAPS WITH TIMES PRESIDENT CARTER WILL BE IN NEW YORK WILL MAKE IT EASIER TO SCHEDULE A MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS. THEY SAID THAT THE AFTERNOON OF OCTOBER 4 OR THE MORNING OCTOBER 5 WOULD BE MOST CONVENIENT FOR PRESIDENT

MACHEL, WHO DEPARTS FOR THE CARRIBBEAN (EITHER CUBA, JAMAICA OR GUYANA) SOME TIME ON OCTOBER 5.

5. I TOLD VIEIRA AND HONWANA THAT I HAD TALKED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE ON SEPTEMBER 8 WHO NOTED HOW VERY CROWDED PRESIDENT CARTER'S SCHEDULE IS AT THIS TIME OF YEAR. I SAID TOO THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO NEW YORK WAS VERY BRIEF AND THAT MUCH OF HIS TIME MIGHT ALREADY BE COMMITTED. HOWEVER, I REPEATED WHAT I HAD TOLD THEM EARLIER, I.E. THAT I WAS SURE PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH MACHEL, PROVIDED HIS SCHEDULE PERMITTED, AND PROMISED TO NOTIFY WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY OF MACHEL'S NEW TRAVEL PLANS.

6. VIEIRA SAID HE MUST DEPART FOR THE CARRIBBEAN ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR MACHEL'S VISIT. HE WONDERED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR ME TO HAVE AN ANSWER FOR HIM ON THE LIKELIHOOD OF A PRESIDENTIAL MEETING IN NEW YORK PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE ON THE 12TH. I SAID I WOULD TRY, BUT COULD NOT BE CERTAIN. WE AGREED TO MEET AT 1100 HOURS LOCAL TIME SEPTEMBER 12.

7. ACTION REQUESTED. THIS BEING A WEEKEND, I REALIZE IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR DEPARTMENT TO OBTAIN RESPONSE FOR ME PRIOR TO VIEIRA' DEPARTURE. HOWEVER, IF PRESIDENT CARTER HAS, ON BASIS MY EARLIER TELEGRAMS, AGREED TO MEET WITH MACHEL----WHICH AS INDICATED REFTELS I STRONGLY RECOMMEND--I WOULD HOPE AT MINIMUM I MIGHT BE INSTRUCTED TO TELL VIEIRA THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS AGREED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PRINCIPLE TO MEET MACHEL IN NEW YORK, PROVIDED A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME CAN BE ARRANGED. OBVIOUSLY, IF I CAN PROPOSE A TIME FOR SUCH A MEETING SO MUCH THE BETTER.

8. VIEIRA AND HONWANA ASKED AGAIN THIS MORNING IF EMBASSY HAD ANY SUGGESTIONS HOW GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE MIGHT PROCEED TO ARRANGE ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION FOR THEIR DELEGATION. SPECIFICALLY, VIEIRA HEARD THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO RENT A LARGE HOUSE IN NEW YORK FOR A FEW DAYS AND THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE DESIRABLE FOR SECURITY REASONS IF PRICE IS NOT PROHIBITIVE. MOZAMBIQUE HAS AN AMBASSADOR IN NEW YORK WHO SHOULD BE ABLE TO ADVISE THEM, BUT APPARENTLY NEITHER VIEIRA NOR HONWANA HAVE MUCH CONFIDENCE IN AMBASSADOR LOBO. IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO EMBASSY IN OUR RELATIONS WITH VIEIRA AND ONWANA, BOTH OF WHOM CLOSE TO MACHEL AND HOLD INFLUENTIAL POSITIONS, IF EMBASSY COULD OFFER THEM SOME ADVICE ON ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION, IF

ONLY THE NAME OF SOMEONE IN THE UNITED NATIONS THEY MIGHT CONTACT.

9. WE ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS PASSED MAPUOT'S 1078 TO USUN. IF NOT, DEPARTMENT PLEASE REPEAT TO USUN.

10. FOR DEPARTMENT AND USUN. EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS ROOM WILL BE
OPEN THIS WEEKEND. PLEASE SEND ANY MESSAGES IMMEDIATE SO THAT
GUIDANCE WILL BE AVAILABLE BY 1100 HOURS LOCAL TIME SEPTEMBER 12.
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